

Filed for intro on 05/18/2000

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 753

By Windle

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Mike Cross and the Clarkrange High School Chess Team on winning the Under 1000 Scholastic National Chess Championship.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this General Assembly should honor those outstanding groups, and their individual members, who through their natural talents and unflagging commitment have achieved excellence in their academic careers and are credits to their respective families, schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, one such remarkable group of people is the Clarkrange High School Chess Team, which captured the prestigious Under 1000 Scholastic National Chess Championship, held April 28, 2000 in Charlotte, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, competing against 617 players from thirty-nine other states, Coach Mike Cross and his CHS squad distinguished themselves as champions in their field by winning the national title; and

WHEREAS, led by team members Glenis Swallows, Matt Human, Jason Smith, Mark Dixon, Ryan West and Joe Wright, Clarkrange started the tournament by finishing Round 1 in twenty-eighth place; and

WHEREAS, by Round 3 the team had moved up to first place, slightly ahead of teams from Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Charlotte, North Carolina; Racine, Wisconsin; Bronx, New York; and Fort Lauderdale, Florida; and

WHEREAS, at the end of Round 4, schools from Detroit and Miami had entered the hunt for the National Championship, yet Clarkrange doggedly fought off all challengers to maintain its grip on first place; and

WHEREAS, by the end of Round 5, teams from Kansas, Ohio, Maryland, Georgia and Texas had made a serious run at Clarkrange, but the team never faltered, edging out the Bronx team in the 7th Round on a tie-breaker to garner championship honors; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the team's national title, several members of the CHS squad earned impressive individual honors; Mark Dixon and Matt Human finished fourteenth and twenty-first respectively in the National Blitz tournament, while Glenis Swallows, Matt Human and Ryan West placed in the top 30 in the regular tournament, competing against more than 600 other players; and

WHEREAS, through countless hours of practice and untiring commitment of time and talent, the Clarkrange High School Chess Team has achieved extraordinary success in competition and has joined the ranks of the academic elite; and

WHEREAS, the team's overall strength and consistency played an integral role in its success; each member exemplifies the spirit and dedication that are characteristic of true Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, the Clarkrange Chess Team members' display of intellectual prowess and inner drive surely bode well for their future success; and

WHEREAS, the team's noteworthy achievement is a source of great pride for their school and their community; and

WHEREAS, the Clarkrange Chess Team's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend the Clarkrange High School Chess Team on winning the Under 1000 Scholastic National Chess Tournament Championship and wish the team's members every continued success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copies.